Day R. Williams
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Attorney for Plaintiff Debra Britton
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA
***
DEBRA BRITTON, Case No.
Plaintiff, COMPLAINT v. (JURY TRIAL DEMANDED)
NMB PROPERTIES LLC,
Defendant.
Plaintiff Debra Britton, through counsel, Day R. Williams, Attorney at Law, complains
and alleges as follows:
1. Plaintiff Debra Britton sues under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), 29 U.S.
Code Chapter 8, for back pay as a motel manager for NMB Properties LLC. The back pay is for
the difference between the minimum wage and what Defendant paid her for regular hours, as
well as her entitlement to overtime pay at a time-and-a-half rate. Plaintiff also sues for
Retaliation under FLSA, Wrongful Termination, Violation of State Law (NRS 608.260), and
Unjust Enrichment.
2. Plaintiff resides in Reno, Nevada.
3. Defendant NMB Properties LLC is a Nevada limited liability company that
conducts business in northern Nevada. The principal of Defendant NMB Properties LLC is Nav
(or Navprit) Bajwa. The resident agent for NMB Properties LLC is AGP Corporate Services,
Inc. 611 Sierra Rose Drive Suite A, Reno NV 89511.
4. The wrongful acts took place in northern Nevada. Defendant NMB Properties

DAY R. WILLIAMS ATTORNEY AT LAW 1601 FAIRVIEW DR. #C CARSON CITY, NV 89701-5860 775/885-8398 committed torts and violated state and federal law. Defendant NMB Properties LLC has been guilty of oppression, fraud or malice, express or implied with respect to Plaintiff.

- 5. This Court has original jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331, which provides as follows: "The district courts shall have original jurisdiction of all civil actions arising under the Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States." The Court has supplemental jurisdiction over the related state law claims under 28 U.S. Code § 1367(a).
- 6. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391 in that the parties reside or do business in the Northern District of Nevada, and the action arises in the Northern District of Nevada.
  - 7. Plaintiff demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

#### **FLSA VIOLATION**

- 8. Plaintiff incorporates and realleges the preceding allegations of this complaint.
- 9. Plaintiff worked as a motel manager for Defendant NMB Properties LLC from July 22, 2014 to November 14, 2015 at the Easy Inn in Reno, Nevada.
- 10. Defendant NMB Properties LLC operates the Easy Inn, 1661 East Sixth Street, Reno NV 89512. Defendant NMB Properties LLC also operates the Pony Express Lodge (Home Office), 777 Motel, Sutro Motel, City Center Motel, Rancho Sierra Motel, Townsite Motel, Truckee River Lodge, Old Forty West Motel, Tombstone Territory Motel, Silver Dollar Motel, Co-Ed Motel, Capri Motel, Aloha Inn, Douglas Arms Apartments, and several houses. Defendant NMB Properties LLC grosses more than \$500,000.00 per year.
- 11. The parties had no written contract. The employer did not provide a health plan to the employees. One condition of Plaintiff's employment was that she live on-site at the Easy Inn, 1661 East Sixth Street, Reno, Nevada 89512.
- 12. She worked on average 50-60 hours per week. She was paid less than \$455.00 per week and less than \$23,600.00 per year. She did not regularly supervise two or more other employees. Management was not the primary duty of her job. She did not have genuine input into the job status of other employees (such as hiring, firing, promotions, or assignment).

1	13. At the beginning of Plaintiff's employment, Defendant NMB Properties LLC
2	paid Plaintiff \$200.00 (two hundred dollars) per week in cash. See charts attached as Exhibits 1
3	and 2.
4	14. Nevada's minimum wage is \$8.25 per hour. Nevada's minimum overtime wage
5	is \$12.38 per hour.
6	15. Before the period for which Plaintiff sues, NMB Properties LLC knew that it
7	should pay Plaintiff the minimum wage of \$8.25 per hour and should pay overtime of \$12.38 to
8	a motel manager.
9	16. The FLSA requires employers to pay overtime wages equal to one and one-half
10	times the employee's regular rate for work performed in excess of 40 hours per week. 29 U.S.C.
11	§ 207(a). Defendant NMB Properties LLC willfully violated the FLSA by paying Plaintiff less
12	than the minimum wage and by paying Plaintiff no overtime wages.
13	17. Plaintiff was not properly compensated for her work. She is currently not being
14	properly compensated for her work.
15	18. Plaintiff has suffered damages under 29 U.S.C. 216(b) and should be
16	compensated for 70 weeks of back pay for unpaid minimum wages and overtime compensation,
17	plus an additional equal amount in liquidated damages (double damages), plus fees, costs, and
18	pre-judgment interest.
19	
20	RETALIATION UNDER FLSA
21	19. Plaintiff incorporates and realleges the preceding allegations of this complaint.
22	20. On or about July 2015 Plaintiff complained to the United States Department of
23	Labor, Wage and Hour Division, that her employer was not compensating her fairly. On
24	Monday, November 2, 2015 Nav Bajwa (aka Navprit Bajwa), the principal of NMB Properties
25	LLC, called and asked her, "Did you file a complaint with the Wage and Hour Division?" She
26	confirmed that she had talked to the Wage and Hour Division. He said that the Wage and Hour
27	Division had called him. He asked her to withdraw her complaint and offered to help her move
28	

elsewhere. He said, "I'll tell you right now, if that's the way you want to play it, you're going to be sorry." He told her, "It will get ugly."

- 21. On Saturday, November 14, 2015 two general managers of Defendant NMB Properties LLC, Monique Birch and Anna Davis, terminated Plaintiff's employment on the pretext that rent money was missing. (Defendant's normal procedure with respect to allegedly missing rent money was to investigate the matter, not to fire the manager.) Within 30 minutes after Plaintiff's termination, the money turned up at the bottom of a drawer, where it had been all along. Defendant knew this but did not reinstate Plaintiff.
- 22. The Fair Labor Standards Act anti-retaliation provision provides that it is unlawful: "[T]o discharge or in any other manner discriminate against any employee because such employee has filed any complaint or instituted or caused to be instituted any proceeding under or related to this chapter, or has testified or is about to testify in any such proceeding, or has served or is about to serve on an industry committee." 29 U.S.C. S 215(a)(3).
- 23. Defendant NMB Properties LLC violated the anti-retaliation provision, which proximately caused Plaintiff to suffer damages.

#### WRONGFUL TERMINATION

- 24. Plaintiff incorporates and realleges the preceding allegations of this complaint.
- 25. On or about July 2015 Plaintiff complained to the United States Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, that her employer was not compensating her fairly. On Monday, November 2, 2015 Nav Bajwa, the principal of NMB Properties LLC, called and asked her, "Did you file a complaint with the Wage and Hour Division?" He said that the Wage and Hour Division had called him. He asked her to withdraw her complaint. He offered to help her move elsewhere. He said, "I'll tell you right now, that's the way you want to play it, you're going to be sorry."
- 26. On Saturday, November 14, 2015 two general managers of Defendant NMB Properties LLC terminated Plaintiff's employment on the pretext that rent money was missing.

1	(Defendant's	normal procedure with respect to allegedly missing rent money was to investigate
2	the matter, n	ot to fire the manager.) Within 30 minutes after her termination, the money turned
3	up at the bott	tom of a drawer, where it had been all along. Defendant knew that the money had
4	turned up, bu	at did not reinstate Plaintiff to her position as a manager.
5	27.	The real reason that Defendant terminated Plaintiff was to retaliate against her
6	for filing a co	omplaint with the United States Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division.
7	Defendant's	termination violated Nevada's public policy.
8	28.	Defendant's termination proximately caused damages to Plaintiff.
9		
10		VIOLATION OF STATE LAW (NRS 608.260)
11	29.	Plaintiff incorporates and realleges the preceding allegations of this complaint.
12	30.	NRS 608.260, "Action by employee to recover difference between minimum
13	wage and am	ount paid; limitation of action," provides as follows:
14		If any employer pays any employee a lesser amount than the minimum wage prescribed by regulation of the Labor Commissioner pursuant to the
15 16		provisions of NRS 608.250, the employee may, at any time within 2 years, bring a civil action to recover the difference between the amount paid to the employee and the amount of the minimum wage. A contract between the employer and the
17		employee or any acceptance of a lesser wage by the employee is not a bar to the action.
18	31.	Defendant employer, NMB Properties LLC, paid Plaintiff a lesser amount than
19	the minimun	wage prescribed by regulation of the Labor Commissioner pursuant to the
20	provisions of	FNRS 608.250.
21	32.	Defendant violated NRS 608.250. As a proximate cause thereof, Plaintiff has
22	been damage	ed. She sues to recover the difference between the amount paid to Plaintiff and the
23	amount of th	e minimum wage.
24		UNJUST ENRICHMENT
25	33.	Plaintiff incorporates and realleges the preceding allegations of this complaint.
26	34.	Unjust enrichment occurs whenever a person has and retains a benefit which in
27	equity and go	ood conscience belongs to another.
28		

35. Defendant NMB Properties LLC has retained a benefit, namely, money that 1 2 belongs to Plaintiff under the requirements of the FLSA, which in equity and good conscience belongs to Plaintiff. Plaintiff should receive all benefit to which the law entitles her. 3 4 5 PRAYER FOR RELIEF 6 Wherefore, Plaintiff Debra Britton requests the following relief: Full compensation in 7 terms of back pay at the rate for minimum wage in the State of Nevada plus overtime 8 compensation, plus an additional equal amount in liquidated damages (double damages), plus attorneys' fees, costs, pre-judgment interest, punitive damages, and such other relief as is 9 10 proper. DATED this 19th day of November, 2015. 11 12 13 14 Attorney for Plaintiff Debra Britton 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

DAY R. WILLIAMS ATTORNEY AT LAW 1601 FAIRVIEW DR. #C CARSON CITY, NV 89701-5860 775\885-8398

1 2 VERIFICATION OF DEBRA BRITTON 3 STATE OF NEVADA ) 4 **CARSON CITY** 5 I, Debra Britton, declare under penalty of perjury that: 6 I am the Plaintiff herein. The facts stated in the pleading are true and accurate. As to 7 those facts stated on information and belief, I believe them to be true. 8 9 Debra Britton Subscribed and sworn to before me 10 this day of November, 2015 11 by Debra Britton. 12 Villiams 13 14 15 **ROBIN A. WILLIAMS** 16 **NOTARY PUBLIC** STATE OF NEVADA 17 APPT No. 94-3167-3 MY APPT EXPIRES FEB 19. 2018 18 19 20 21 22

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3				Index of Exhibits
4	1.	Hours Worked 20	4.	
5	2.	Hours Worked 20	5.	
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DAY R. WILLIAMS ATTORNEY AT LAW 1601 FAIRVIEW DR. #6 CARSON CITY, NV 89701-5860 775\885-8398

## **EXHIBIT 1**

### **EXHIBIT 1**

### Hours Worked 2014

			July					
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Hrs	Amount
			_				Worked	Paid
		1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	52.5	
		10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
27	28	29	30	31			50	
8.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5				!

			August					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Hrs	Amount
							Worked	Paid
					1	2	21	
					10.5	10.5		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	71	\$200
8.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	71	\$200
8.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	71	\$200
8.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	71	\$200
8.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
31							8.0	
8.0								

			September					
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Hrs Worked	Amount Paid
	1	2	3	4	5	6		

	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	63	\$200
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	67	\$200
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	67	\$200
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	67	\$200
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
28	29	30					25	\$200
4.0	10.5	10.5						

			October					
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Hrs	Amount
							Worked	Paid
			1	2	3	4	42	\$200
			10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	67	\$200
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	67	\$200
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	67	\$200
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
26	27	28	29	30	31		56.5	\$200
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5			

			November					
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Hrs	Amount
							Worked	Paid
				_		1		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	67	\$200
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	67	\$200
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		

4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		\$200
23	24	25	26	27 T-	28	29	64.5	\$200
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	day	10.5	10.5		
				8.0				
30							4.0	
4.0								

				December				
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Hrs	Amount
							Worked	Paid
	1	2	3	4	5	6	63	\$200
	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	67	\$200
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		•
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	67	\$200
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
21	22	23	24	25 Xmas	26	27	62.5	\$200
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	6.0	10.5	10.5		
28	29	30	31				35.5	
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5					

## **EXHIBIT 2**

# **EXHIBIT 2**

### Hours Worked 2015

			January					
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Hrs	Amount
							Worked	Paid
28	29	30	31	1	2	3	67	\$250
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	67	\$250
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	67	\$250
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	67	\$250
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	67	\$250
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		

			February					
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Hrs	Amount
							Worked	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	67	\$250
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	67	\$250
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	67	\$250
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	67	\$250
4.0	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5		

			March					
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Hrs	Amount
							Worked	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
29	30	31						
	8.0	8.0						

			April					
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Hrs	Amount
							Worked	
			1	2	3	41	50	\$250
			8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
26	27	28	29	30			32	
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0				

			May					
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Hrs	Amount
							Worked	Paid
					1	2	18	\$250
					8.0	10.0		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
31								

			June					
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Hrs	Amount
							Worked	Paid
	1	2	3	4	5	6	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
4	8	9	10	11	12	13	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
28	29	30					16	
	8.0	8.0						

			July					
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Hrs	Amount
							Worked	Paid
			1	2	3	4	34	\$250
			8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
12	13	14	15.	16	17	18	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
26	27	28	29	30	31		40	
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0			

			August					
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Hrs	Amount
							Worked	Paid
						1	10.0	\$250
						10.0		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		!
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
30	31						8	
	8.0							

			September					
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Hrs	Amount
					,		Worked	Paid
		1	2	3	4	5	42	\$250
		8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
27	28	29	30				24	
	8.0	8.0	8.0					

			October					
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Hrs Worked	Amount Paid
				1	2	3	26	\$250
4	5	6	7	8.0	9	10.0	50	\$250
4	$\begin{vmatrix} 3 \\ 8.0 \end{vmatrix}$	6 8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10 10.0	50	\$250
11	12 8.0	13 8.0	14 8.0	15 8.0	16 8.0	17 10.0	50	\$250
18	19 8.0	20 sick	21 Sick	22 Sick	23 5.0 Hospital	24 Hospital	13	\$250

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25	26	27	28	29	30	31	18	\$250
Hospital	Hos	sick	sick	sick	8.0	10.0		
	sick							

			November				:	
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Hrs	Amount
							Worked	Paid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	50	\$250
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	46	\$180
	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	6.0		
15	16	17	18	19	21	21		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
29	30							